

Page 3

Line 24, delete ", the"

Page 4

Line 5, delete "a"

Line 7, after "by" insert --the--

Line 14, change "lowered" to --lower-- and change "of the" to --of--

Line 25, change "potentiality" to --potential--

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Line 19, delete "the"

Page 6

Line 1, change "Another" to --Other--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 5 and 6 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please amend the following claim:

Claim 1 (Amended). A modified natural rubber obtained by a modification of a deproteinized natural rubber having a nitrogen content of less than 0.10% by weight; wherein said modification is carried out by graft copolymerizing said deproteinized natural rubber with an organic compound having an unsaturated bond selected from methacrylic acid, acrylic acid, methyl methacrylate, methyl acrylate, 2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate, acrylonitrile, vinyl